# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4501
ANSWERED ON:08.05.2007
INTERNATIONAL LITERACY DAY
Sarvey Shri Sathyanarayana

**Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Government has celebrated International Literacy Day recently;

(b) if so, the aims and objectives set therein;

(c) whether the Government is making sustained efforts to cover every illiterate; and

(d) if so, the complete details thereof?

## Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI)

(a) 8th September is designated as International Literacy Day and it was last celebrated in the country on 8Th September, 2006.

(b) The aim and objective of celebrating International Literacy Day is to mobilize public opinion in favour of struggle against illiteracy and highlight its importance to individuals, communities and societies.

(c & d) The.Universalisation of Elementary Education and eradication of adult illiteracy form the two-pronged strategy for improving the literacy rate of the country. Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) is a comprehensive programme for universalizing quality Elementary Education by 2010. The National Literacy Mission (NLM) aims at providing functional literacy to non-1 iterates in 15-35 age group in the country. So far 597 districts have been covered under adult education programmes which include 101 districts under Total Literacy Campaigns for imparting basic literacy to the non-literates, 168 districts under Post Literacy Programme for the reinforcement of the literacy skills of the neo-literates and 328 districts under Continuing Education Programme for providing life long education opportunities to the beneficiaries. Apart from ongoing literacy programmes, NLM has taken up Accelerated Female Literacy Programme in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Orissa and Jharkhand. Further, Projects for Residual Illiteracy have also been sanctioned in 12 States covering 113 districts. In addition, 150 districts of the country, which have the lowest literacy rates, have been identified for launching special literacy drive. 26 State Resource Centre have been established for providing academic and technical resource support for the literacy programme. In addition 197 Jan Shikshan Sansthans have been sanctioned to provide vocational training to the neo-literates and other backward sections of the society.